Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /028 W

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R 290855Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1706

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, IR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT FARES

REF: STATE 120143

- 1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT IRAN AIR GIVES 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT ON INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS (BUT NOT ON INTERNAL FLIGHTS) AT DIRECTORN OF GOI TO ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, THEIR FAMILIES AND SERVANTS. ESTIMATE OF TOTAL NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, EXCLUDING MILITARY, IS 500,000 BUT REAL FIGURE OF THOSE PRINCIPALS ENTITLED TO 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT IS MUCH HIGHER--MANY PERSONS IN IRAN HAVE TWO JOBS AND IN MOST CASES ONE OF THOSE JOBS WILL QUALIFY IN SOME MANNER FOR THE 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT.
- 2. IRAN AIR ALSO GIVES ON INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS DISCOUNT (VARIOUSLY DESCRIBED AS 40 PERCENT AND 65 PERCENT) TO ALL COLLEGE AGE STUDENTS AND 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT TO STUDENTS' PARENTS. EMBASSY ESTIMATES 15,000 TO 20,000 IRANIAN STUDENTS NOW IN THE UNITED STATES; ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF THOSE RECEIVE EDUCATIONAL SUBSIDY FROM GOI.
- 3. DEPARTURE TAX OF RIALS 250 IS NOT COLLECTED FROM IRANIAN CITIZENS. PASSPORT FEE IS RIALS 6000 (ABOUT \$90) FOR PASSPORT VALID UP TO THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE FOR THREE MORE. IN ADDITION FEE FOR EXIT VISA FOR IRANIAN CITIZENS IS RIALS 10,000 (ABOUT \$150) AND IS COLLECTED FROM ALL TRAVELLERS EACH TIME THEY TRAVEL. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: AIR FARES, PASSENGERS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 29 MAY 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN04996

Document Number: 1975TEHRAN04996 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D750187-1043

From: TEHRAN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975057/aaaaagmo.tel

Line Count: 62

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 STATE 120143
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 06 AUG 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>

Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CIVAIR: 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT FARES TAGS: EAIR, IR To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006